

# 10 REASONS TO INVEST AND DO BUSINESS IN



1. *Gallup Job Creation Index* ranks North Dakota #1 for the Best Jobs Market in 2012.
2. North Dakota has increased exports by 585 percent since 2000.  
*U.S. Department of Commerce, 2012*
3. North Dakota ranks #1 in the nation for the highest growth of GDP in 2010, 2011, and 2012 and leads the nation in personal income growth.  
*Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2012, 2013*
4. *Forbes Magazine's 2013 Best States for Business and Careers* recognizes North Dakota as the #2 state for business.
5. North Dakota was named the nation's #1 top overall growth performer since 2000.  
*U.S. Chamber of Commerce, 2013*
6. North Dakota ranks #3 as a pro-business state in America, according to the *Pollina Corporate Top 10 Pro-Business States for 2013*.
7. North Dakota ranks #2 in the nation in state competitiveness and is ranked #2 in a national entrepreneurship index.  
*Beacon Hill Competitiveness Index, 2012*  
*University of Nebraska, Bureau of Business Research, 2012*
8. North Dakota residents and businesses have received over \$1 billion in cuts to personal, corporate and property taxes, from the 2009, 2011 and 2013 legislative sessions.  
*North Dakota Tax Commissioner*
9. *Business Facilities* ranked North Dakota #1 for economic growth potential in 2013.
10. North Dakota was named the best run state in the nation for the 2nd year in a row. North Dakota also received Standard & Poor's top credit ranking of 'AAA.'  
*24/7 Wall Street, 2013*



## STRATEGIC INCENTIVE ADVANTAGES

### Corporate Tax Exemptions

- Five-year corporate income tax exemption for new or expanding primary sector business
- Salary and R&D tax credits available

### Sales Tax Exemptions

- Sales and use tax exemptions on manufacturing/computer/telecommunication equipment, water, electricity and interstate communications for technology-based business

### Property Tax Exemptions

- Up to five-year property tax exemption
- Additional five years available for agricultural processors or a project located in property leased from a governmental entity
- In lieu of a property tax exemption, in full or part, a company may negotiate a fixed or graduated rate for a period not to exceed 20 years
- No personal property taxed, including equipment, materials in process, and accounts receivable

### Financial Incentives

- North Dakota Development Fund — gap financing loan and equity program
- PACE Program — interest buy down program at Bank of North Dakota
- MATCH Program — loans at U.S. Treasury yield rate + 0.25% - 0.50% for “A” or “BBB” rated companies

### Job Training Programs

- One-stop job training assistance — both state and federal programs available for businesses
- Workforce 2020 — state-funded program for training new technologies and processes
- New Jobs Training Program — “no cost” program utilizing employee withholding tax

### Workers Compensation

- Lowest workers compensation premium rates in the nation - 2012

## COMPETITIVE BUSINESS COST ADVANTAGES

### Power

- Power offered at industrial rates at an avg. 7.20 cents/kh — YTD October 2013
- Nearly 60% of the electricity generated in the state is provided to interstate trade
- Supporting “green” business trend by developing renewable energy sources

### Public Policy

- Constitutionally balanced budget
- Person-to-person access to public officials
- Only state-owned bank in the nation offers business expansion funds

### Taxes

- In 2013, State Legislature lowered the top corporate income tax rate from 5.15% to 4.53%